

On June 6, in passing through one of the 'Bunting fields' on the return trip, the writer flushed a female from a fresh set of five eggs of the usual size and color. The nest, which is now before me, was placed *on*, not *in* the ground, among the stems of a tuft of weeds, and is composed of leaves externally, and lined with fine, dry grass. Its measurements are as follows: outside diameter, 100 mm.; inside diameter, 63 mm.; height outside, 63 mm.; depth inside, 45 mm. These birds were observed in every suitable locality on the Point, and on the return drive they were heard constantly till we had gone three miles into the mainland, when no more were noticed.

On June 6, when about a mile farther up the Point, the writer heard a strange note, and at every search for the author found an Orchard Oriole, and, not being very familiar with that bird, attributed the note to it. Shortly afterward Mr. Bailey arrived at the same place, and called out, "Did you hear the Chat?" Instantly every one was on the *qui vive*, and after some time a glimpse of the bird was obtained, but not the bird itself. A hunt for it on the two following days was finally rewarded by the capture of a fine female Yellow-breasted Chat, with ovaries as large as a sa pea. Further search resulted in nothing more than this, the first capture in Canada; and though we looked carefully, we did not even find the beginning of a nest. Reference has already been made in 'The Auk' to the remains of a specimen of this species that Mr. Thos. McIlwraith picked up at Hamilton, Ont. No doubt they are regular summer visitors at Pelee Island, Point Pelee, and some places along the shore of Lake Erie.

On September 15, 1883, there flew into a store in this city a Connecticut Warbler, which was, as far as I then knew, the first Canadian specimen. In December of the same year, a consultation with Mr. McIlwraith disclosed the fact that he had some specimens of the same species, which had never been satisfactorily separated from the Mourning Warbler. These have been in his possession for years. Again in May, 1884, attracted by a new note, after spending some time in a swampy thicket, I succeeded in capturing another of this species near London; and since knowing their note have found them tolerably common, but quite shy here as swamp birds, and quite common at Point Pelee, for a few days in June, as ground feeders in dry places, where, on the above trip, several were procured.—W. E. SAUNDERS, *London, Ont.*

**A Belated Bird.**—The Chewink (*Pipilo erythrophthalmus*) returns to this region in limited numbers every spring. It is not usual to see very many of them, a pair at most together, and oftener one alone. They depart as regularly every autumn, and we see no more of them until some pleasant day in spring, when the weather has become quite warm. But very curiously to me, one of these birds did not depart with its associates in the fall, and is still here (Dec. 21, 1884). During the past ten days the mercury has ranged from 10° to 31° below zero, and yet my Chewink stays about the barnyard, as bright and lively as though we were in the midst of warm, bud-swelling spring days! On the coldest morning, I found him

in a little close shed, from which he escaped through a broken window-pane. He alighted on a limb of a tree only three or four feet from the window, and I had a good look at him. He seemed to be shivering with cold, but still active. He is quite tame, and very freely goes about among the cattle and hogs searching for food. If we could only get hold of him we would give him better quarters within doors, for it seems scarcely possible that he can long survive such temperature. He evidently 'got left' when the autumn migration took place, and his 'inherited experience' was too limited to prompt him to attempt the journey alone.

P.S.—Jan. 2, 1885. The Chewink is still here. This afternoon I caught him in an out-building. We looked him over and let him go. He is in good condition—sound and plump—despite our  $-40^{\circ}$  temperature! He is solitary and alone, no birds of any species being about.—CHARLES ALDRICH, *Webster City, Iowa.*

**Cowbird Wintering in Western New York.**—A few weeks ago my attention was called to a strange bird which was feeding on the street with *Passer domesticus*. On getting a good view I saw it was *Molothrus ater*. The egg from which it was hatched was probably laid and hatched in a Sparrow's nest, and the bird, reared by the Sparrows, failed to mingle with the rest of its species. I have seen it a number of times since, and a young man told me last week that he saw it nearly every day. I am quite anxious to know if it will survive through the winter with its foster parents. Being itself a vagabond, it is a fit companion for *Passer domesticus*.—J. L. DAMON, *Lockport, N. Y.*

**Nest and Eggs of *Calypte costæ*.**—In a paper read before the January meeting of the Ridgway Ornithological Club, descriptive of the Californian Trochilidæ, reference was made to the finding of a nest and eggs of *Calypte costæ*. Considering the rarity of the nests and eggs of Costa's Hummer, perhaps a description of them may not fail of interest to the readers of 'The Auk.'

Three nests of this bird were found by the writer at Arrow-head Hot Springs, San Bernardino County, Cal., May 15, 1883; but unfortunately but one set of eggs was secured. One set was accidentally shaken from the nest; the other nest was out of reach.

Finding no account of the breeding habits of the bird in question in such books as are at my disposal, I wrote to Mr. H. W. Henshaw for information, who regretted that he could not enlighten me, not having met with the bird in any of his wanderings; but he was of the opinion that nothing had been recorded respecting the nest and eggs of this species. He, however, kindly forwarded my letter to his friend Mr. L. Belding, of Stockton, Cal., with request to send what information he could bearing on the subject. Mr. Belding writes concerning *Calypte costæ* as follows:—

"I have met it at various places, — Guaymas, on the east side of the Gulf of California, at La Paz, Cape St. Lucas, Cerros Islands, and other localities on the west side of the Gulf, but never recorded much concerning